

In 1998, I received requests from village chiefs from the Villages of Sili and Olosega, on the Island of Olosega, to include portions of their village lands within the National Park. The chiefs noted the important role the Park plays in preserving the natural and cultural resources of the territory, and indicated that the village councils believe there are significant cultural resources on village lands which warrant consideration for addition to the park.

I asked the National Park Service to conduct a study to determine if there were in fact resources on the island which warranted inclusion in the park. The Park Service completed a reconnaissance survey of the Island of Olosega and of a portion of the Island of Ofu, and reported on both. The Service concluded in part:

"The archaeological significance of [Olosega Island] cannot be understated. Sites on the ridgeline and terraces may offer an important opportunity for the study and interpretation of ancient Samoa. The number and density of star mounds (31), the great number of modified terraces (46) and home sites (14), the subsistence system, and the artifacts available are all important findings. This is particularly significant in that they were recorded in only 3 days of visual surveys on only a portion of the island."

The National Park of American Samoa is continuing to develop. Established in 1988 by Public Law 100-571, the Park took several years to become operational. Today, however, tourists are visiting and school teachers are using the Park as an educational resource to help the students learn more about Samoan history and culture, the environment, and ecological conservation. The Park is preserving the area within its boundaries, but as the population grows (there was an estimated 41 percent increase from 1990 to 2000), considerable pressure is being placed on those undeveloped areas. The additions proposed by the legislation I am introducing today will preserve important sections of the remaining natural cultural resources. Timing is important, and I hope to see this legislation enacted into law in the near future.

HONORING DR. MUNR KAZMIR

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 3, 2001

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a man who has dedicated his life to charity and selfless devotion to others. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor my good friend, Munr Kazmir of Fort Lee, New Jersey, who is being honored by the Rabbinical College of America with an honorary law degree.

As CEO of Quality Health Care and Direct Meds, success has followed Munr to every project he has embarked upon. And he has shared his success with others in the Jewish community both in the United States and throughout the world.

There is only one word that can be used to describe how my friend Munr lives his life, and it is a word that has a different meaning to each who speaks it. The word is "tzedakah."

Giving tzedakah is considered in the Jewish tradition to be a religious obligation, a mitzvah.

When it comes to defining this word, I agree with Rabbi Avi Weinstein, who said, "Tzedakah, the Jewish term for helping the poor, is often translated as 'charity.' However, the Hebrew root 'zedek' is more closely translated as 'justice' or 'fairness.'"

What I have found most touching about Dr. Munr Kazmir is that in everything he does, there is always a sense of justice and fairness that shines through. His work is truly extraordinary and stretches from our home state to our homeland. He is active in the UJA Federation of Bergen County and North Hudson, and he has also worked tirelessly for the Aleh Foundation which benefits the disabled children of Israel and Lubavitch Chabad houses around the world. He has also as many of you know supported and counseled countless numbers of community leaders on the local, state, national, and international level. He has been honored throughout the New York Metropolitan area, in Washington and Tel Aviv.

Munr is also a forward-thinking person who never loses sight of the future: our young people. Born into a culture where he did not have the opportunity to receive a Jewish education, he has been a tireless advocate to make sure other children have the chance to learn about their Jewish heritage.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to congratulate my dear friend Munr Kazmir, on the occasion of this well deserved tribute from the Rabbinical College of America, and wish him long life, good health and happiness in the years to come.

STATEMENT IN HONOR OF THE LATE ROBERT E. BURTON

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 3, 2001

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay my final respects to Robert E. Burton. Bob's family and friends will gather on Friday to remember him, and it is with great sadness and deep respect that I share with my colleagues the following words from his obituary in the San Francisco Chronicle:

Robert E. Burton, a prison teacher, public servant, sailor and middle brother in San Francisco's most powerful political dynasty, died Sunday at California Pacific Medical Center at the age of 72.

From the time Mr. Burton entered the Navy at the close of World War II, he almost never stopped working for the public. He was a merchant seaman, a teacher at San Quentin prison for nearly two decades and a member of various state boards and commissions.

But among the three Burton brothers who shaped California politics for several decades, he was the least publicly visible and the least involved in the machinery of politics.

Mr. Burton's older brother, Phillip Burton, was a powerful U.S. representative and legendary political tactician who died in 1983. His younger brother—whom Mr. Burton still called "the kid" even into his 60s—is Senate President Pro Tem John Burton, D-San Francisco, the state's most powerful lawmaker.

"Everyone used to say he was the nice brother," Sen. Burton said yesterday. "And I

think innately he was the smartest of the three of us."

Mr. Burton was born in 1928 and lived much of his life in the same Sloat Boulevard house in which he was raised. But friends said his greatest memory was somewhere else: a sailing trip across the Pacific in a 30-foot boat, which he took with three friends after he left the Navy in 1947.

"He was fearless," Sen. Burton said. "It was a hell of an adventure."

When he returned from Tahiti, Mr. Burton joined the merchant marine as an able-bodied seaman, then got a degree in history from San Francisco State College when he decided to settle back in the city.

Mr. Burton then took a job teaching in the loneliest, most dangerous place in the state—the bowels of San Quentin State Prison. It was there that he often divided his time between African American militants and white supremacists, teaching them how to read and write.

"He would tell people stories and start with, 'When I was in the joint,' like he had done 20 years of hard time," Sen. Burton said. "I guess at the time there weren't many jobs, so he took it. He just loved it, and the cons loved him."

When Mr. Burton retired from the prison in 1976, members from both militant groups told him there was a "hit" out on him. But this was a good thing, he was informed: Anyone threatening or harming Mr. Burton would face their wrath. He was protected.

"He connected with the guys, and they connected with him," said Bill O'Brien of San Francisco, a longtime friend. "It was a passion for him. He wanted them to learn; it really wasn't about having a job."

Mr. Burton was a lifelong Democrat and founding member of the San Francisco Democratic League. He was co-chairman of the voter registration efforts for the California Democratic Party from 1962 to 1982.

At the time of his death, Mr. Burton was a commissioner on the Workers' Compensation Appeals Board and a member of the City College of San Francisco Board of Trustees.

He also had served for 15 years on the prison Industry Board and on two parole boards for the state. Former Gov. Jerry Brown appointed him to the adult parole board in 1976, after two commissioners were removed for voting to release Robert Kennedy's killer, Sirhan Sirhan.

Friends said Mr. Burton loved the San Francisco Giants, gambling and playing bridge. Ken Harrington of San Francisco, a longtime friend, said he "didn't know a single person when you mentioned Bob Burton who didn't get a smile on their face."

"He was, at least, the most outwardly compassionate of the three brothers," Harrington said. "John doesn't want anyone to know his soft spots, but Bob kind of wore it on his sleeve."

Mr. Burton is survived by his brother, Sen. John Burton, and a niece, San Francisco Public Defender Kimiko Burton-Cruz. His wife of more than four decades, Shirley Burton, preceded him in death.

Bob Burton was a man of the people. He never asked for recognition or reward for his work and was rarely in the public eye, but his life touched the lives of so many others. Bob joined his brothers Phillip and John in typifying the true Burton tradition of helping the disadvantaged. It is my honor to pay tribute to Bob and to express my appreciation for his life of service and for his friendship. My thoughts and prayers are with his brother, John, and niece, Kimi.

May 3, 2001

TRIBUTE TO MARY HOLDSAMBECK
OF HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA

HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.
OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 3, 2001

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments and honor Mrs. Mary Holdsambeck on the receipt of the Madison County Democratic Women's Division, "Joan Carpenter Cashin Lifetime Achievement Award." Today's recognition sheds light on the years of good deeds Mary has accomplished.

She has been a vital leader in the Madison County Democratic Women since she moved to Huntsville. She has served two terms as Chairman of the group and has been involved in state politics as a member of the State Coalition for passing the Equal Rights Amendment and in the current Alabama Constitutional Reform Movement. She has even been a candidate, running in a special election for the State of Alabama House of Representatives.

However, Mary's commitment to her community is not limited to the political arena. She played a pivotal role in helping to organize Hope Place, now Crisis Services, serving abused women and families. She has also contributed her time and manifold talents to Trinity United Methodist Church, the Wesley Foundation and the American Association of University Women.

I believe this is a fitting honor for one who has given so much to the betterment of our community and our nation. I commend Mary for her lifetime of achievement and I want to express my sincere gratitude for her bold work for the Democratic Party and the patriotic ideals she believes in.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. WM. LACY CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 3, 2001

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, this morning I was testifying before the Senate Government Affairs Committee on the need for election reform and I was unable to reach the House floor in time for rollcall vote No. 97, a motion to adjourn. I would like to state that I intended to support this motion and would have voted 'yea.'

Also, I would like to take this opportunity to share my Senate testimony with my colleagues in the House.

STATEMENT TO SENATE COMMITTEE ON
GOVERNMENT REFORM, MAY 3, 2001

Mr. Chairman, Senator LIEBERMAN and Distinguished members of the Committee. Thank you for allowing me this opportunity to detail the election problems that occurred in the City of St. Louis during the November 2000 Presidential Elections and to add my voice to those calling for meaningful and comprehensive election reform.

Last November's general election in the city of St. Louis exposed a voting system that is riddled with serious election procedural mistakes; major deficiencies in poll

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

worker training; obsolete and inadequate equipment; and gross errors in maintaining accurate voter registers that resulted in the disenfranchisement of thousands of qualified voters in my district.

These factors led to an election conducted amid widespread voter chaos at polling places throughout the city—the result of a record voter turnout and the arbitrary and capricious removal—by the St. Louis Board of Elections—of over 50,000 qualified voters from the city's active voter register.

When these voters—most of whom were African American—arrived at the polls to cast their votes, they were told by election officials they were not on the active voter register and that they would not be allowed to vote at their normal voting precinct.

Due to inadequate communication between polling precincts and the Central Election office, election workers were unable to verify the eligibility of these voters.

Additionally, poll workers had not received training for dealing with these situations, so they ultimately directed all of the affected voters to go to the Central Election Board office downtown to verify their status.

The resulting confusion at the Central Election office led to a near riot as thousands of eligible voters attempted to cast their vote, some to no avail.

To make matters worse, while the Election Board was clearly unprepared for the massive voter turnout, they were also slow to react to the growing voter confusion they created as the day progressed.

An equally troubling was the Election Board officials' resistance to reasonable remedies designed to ensure that every qualified voter be afforded the opportunity to cast his or her vote without obstruction.

Clearly, such a situation cannot and must not be tolerated. Such conditions not only create confusion among voters; they also threaten the integrity of the Electoral process itself.

It is imperative that federal, state and local officials join in a common effort to reform how we conduct our elections. The nation should never again be subjected to the voting travesty of the last presidential election. The system is broken and it is time that we admit it and work towards common sense solutions.

First, we must take legislative action to provide the necessary funds for modern, state-of-the-art uniform voting equipment, paying particular attention to lower income communities that have long been burdened with outdated and obsolete voting equipment.

And to the maximum extent possible, we must mandate uniform ballot designs and eliminate the current 40-year old punchcard system.

We must also require that local election officials develop comprehensive training standards for their workers and hold them accountable for implementing such training.

Lastly, and most importantly, we must mandate election procedure reform to ensure that qualified voters are not arbitrarily or inadvertently removed from active voter rolls.

This was a major failure in the City of St. Louis and I suspect this situation is widespread across the country.

Voters should not continue to suffer disenfranchisement because election officials are unwilling or unable to safeguard their fundamental right to vote.

If we fail to act now, we will not only inflict further damage to the democratic process, we will also fail in our sworn duty to

protect and defend the fundamental rights of every citizen.

RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY
INTERNATIONAL
BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL
WORKERS LOCAL UNION 180

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 3, 2001

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, my colleague, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California and I, rise today to recognize the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union 180 as this organization celebrates its 100th anniversary.

One hundred years ago on May 6, 1901, Local 180 was chartered by the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

Since its inception, Local 180 has been integrally connected to shipbuilding at the Mare Island Naval Shipyard in Vallejo. Electrical workers helped build the 513 ships, that were launched at Mare Island between 1859 and 1970, from the Saginaw, a wooden hulled steamer, to the Drum, a nuclear powered submarine.

When war was declared with Germany on April 6, 1917, union workers helped turn Mare Island and Vallejo into a commercial hub that could support the war effort.

In the years following World War I, no ships were launched at Mare Island and the workers turned to use their skills to help build the Carquinez Bridge.

In the 1930s, shipbuilding began again at Mare Island. The union shop was reestablished and wages and benefits that had been lost during the previous decade were renegotiated.

During World War II, shipbuilding and union activity at Mare Island escalated. Union members are proud that 95% of all electrical work that directly supported the war effort nationally was performed by the IBEW under union shop conditions.

In the second half of the 20th Century, Local 180 members helped construct Monticello Dam, the second Carquinez Bridge, the Exxon Refinery, the Benecia Industrial Park, and the Anheuser Busch Brewery as well as the country's nuclear submarine fleet at Mare Island.

Mr. Speaker, in honor of its rich history and traditions, it is appropriate that we acknowledge and honor today this pioneering union local and its members who have made an immeasurable difference in the lives of working families and the community in Napa and Solano Counties.